



# STATE OF CONNECTICUT

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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Office of the  
Commissioner

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### **Public Hearing – March 3, 2010 Transportation Committee**

### **Testimony Submitted by Commissioner Joseph F. Marie Department of Transportation**

### **S.B. 345 – An Act Authorizing Municipalities to Conduct a Pilot Program for the Use of Automated Traffic Control Signal Enforcement Devices at Certain Intersections.**

The Department of Transportation (Department) offers the following comments on S.B. 345.

The Department suggests the bill require that the use of a camera enforcement system at a specific site address a demonstrated pattern of red light running accidents. In other states, there has been significant public discussion in jurisdictions where photo enforcement systems were installed and perceived by the public as revenue generators.

Red light running photo-enforcement requires significant integration with existing traffic signal equipment. It is therefore recommended that the proposed legislation only allow such photo enforcement equipment to be installed at traffic signals owned and maintained by a municipality. Single ownership will ease implementation and maintenance of the enforcement equipment and ensure that the same jurisdiction is responsible for the operation of the enforcement system and the signal timing clearance intervals in the event of legal challenges.

There would be a fiscal impact to the Department for which sufficient data is not available to make a determination. Such devices are likely to increase the number of motorists contesting this type of violation and increased demands on staff time can be foreseen answering inquiries regarding traffic signal clearance timing.

For further information or questions, please contact Pam Sucato, Legislative Program Manager for the Department of Transportation, at 860-594-3013.